

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,

EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

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AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway, near Broome street.—SOLUS SINGULUS—LIVE LINDA.

LUCY RUSSELL'S NEW YORK THEATRE, Nos. 725 and 730 Broadway.—KING OF THE GARDENERS—BLACK DOMINO—FRANCISQUE IN A SUEZ PASSAGE.

WOODS THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—AMUSEMENT; OR, THE CHILD STEALER. Matinee at 2 1/2 o'clock.

TONY PASTOR'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowry.—SINGING DANCING, BURLESQUES, &c.—ADVENTURES OF A NEW YORK DEBUTANTE. Matinee at 2 1/2 o'clock.

GEORGE CHRISTIE'S OLD SCHOOL OF MUSIC, 100 Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—SINGING DANCING, BURLESQUES, &c.—ADVENTURES OF A NEW YORK DEBUTANTE. Matinee at 2 1/2 o'clock.

BRYANT'S MINSTRELS, 100 Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—SINGING DANCING, BURLESQUES, &c.—ADVENTURES OF A NEW YORK DEBUTANTE. Matinee at 2 1/2 o'clock.

ROOLEY'S OPERA HOUSE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—SINGING DANCING, BURLESQUES, &c.—ADVENTURES OF A NEW YORK DEBUTANTE. Matinee at 2 1/2 o'clock.

NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 63 Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas Hotel.—SINGING DANCING, BURLESQUES, &c.—ADVENTURES OF A NEW YORK DEBUTANTE. Matinee at 2 1/2 o'clock.

HOPKINS CHAPEL, 72 Broadway.—CORRE'S ILLUSTRATED TOUR OF SCOTLAND. Matinee at 2 o'clock.

BOTANIC HALL, 92 East Broadway.—LECTURE BY REV. V. KIRK ON "THE NORWEGIAN SETTLEMENTS OF THE NORTH-WEST."

ELEMENTS OF NATIONAL GEOMETRY.—LECTURE BY REV. J. C. DODD ON "MARKET STREET DUTCH REFORMED CHURCH."

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

New York, Wednesday, February 28, 1866.

THE NEWS.

CONGRESS.

In the Senate yesterday the bill introduced some days ago, providing for the establishment of a national militia, was reported from the Military Committee by Mr. Wilson, with amendments, among others, striking out the oath of non participation in the rebellion and the provision exempting from service drunkards and vagabonds, and adding a section providing for inspections of the militia force under control of the General-in-Chief of the army. Mr. Wilson also reported from the same committee the resolution expressing the nation's thanks to the officers and privates of our army and navy for their subjugation of the rebellion, which was adopted. Bills were introduced and referred providing for giving the land bounties of deceased soldiers to their heirs, to exempt from State and municipal taxation national land grants for educational purposes, to supply the United States District and Territorial Judges with copies of the public documents printed by order of Congress, and for other purposes of minor importance. Mr. Sumner introduced a resolution, which was adopted, reciting the fact that no response had been made by the President to the Senate's resolution of the 5th of last month, to furnish copies to the House of all official documents relative to the establishment of provisional governments in the South and the proceedings under the administrations of Provisional Governors, and renewing the request for said papers, if not incompatible with the public interests. Petitions for equal rights in the South and for a reduction of the tax on agricultural implements were presented. Mr. Davis, of Kentucky, wished to call up his resolution for an investigation of the alleged frauds of Treasury cotton agents, and caused to be read a letter to sustain his charges; but the resolution was not taken up, and debate of the resolution from the Reconstruction Committee, already adopted by the House, providing for the exclusion of the Southern members until Congress shall have declared their States entitled to representation, was resumed, and continued up to the adjournment, without a vote being reached. Mr. Dixon was the principal speaker, and addressed the Senate at length in support of the resolution, in support of the President's reconstruction policy, and in support of all Southern reconstructionists who can show indisputable loyalty, and in reply to previous remarks of Messrs. Freese, Sherman and Trumbull.

The greater portion of the day in the House of Representatives was spent in continued discussion of the proposed constitutional amendment introduced from the Reconstruction Committee on the day previous, providing for securing equal protection to all citizens and the same privileges for the citizens of each State in all the other States which they enjoy in their own. The debate, which was participated in by a number of members, was of a very interesting character, and some portions of it partook of a comic element. Some of the republicans as well as the democrats spoke against the measure. Without being finally disposed of, it was laid over, and other matters were taken up. The expectation is that it will be passed to a vote to-day. A bill to regulate trade with our neighbors of the British provinces, the provisions of which are given in our report of the proceedings, was reported from the Ways and Means Committee, read twice and made the special order for Friday next. A bill to develop and reclaim government lands in Western States and Territories was reported from the Public Lands Committee. Bills were introduced and referred to the Judiciary Committee to limit the number of Associate Judges of the Supreme Court to eleven, in regard to fees and costs of clerks and attorneys in the national courts. A report of Mr. S. S. Hays, of the Revenue Commission, on petroleum as a source of national wealth, was presented. Resolutions were adopted asking information of the President regarding the distribution of the rewards offered for the arrest of Mr. Lincoln's assassins, and relative to the extension of the term of office of President Juarez, of Mexico, and instructing the Committee on Commerce to report on the expediency of imposing lighthouse dues on vessels, the Judiciary Committee on the expediency of issuing certificates to soldiers who have lost their discharges, and the Naval Committee on the propriety of creating a station for the United States near New London, Connecticut. A resolution declaring that the employment of French troops in further conquest in Mexico will be a violation of the pledge made by the French Emperor in his recent speech was introduced and referred to the Foreign Affairs Committee.

THE LEGISLATURE.

The legislative recess, which commenced on the 15th inst., terminated yesterday, when both houses reassembled. Considerable business was transacted in the Senate. A resolution was adopted providing for a committee somewhat after the style of the Congressional Reconstruction Committee, to whom are to be referred, without debate, all matters relating to national measures for restoring the lately rebellious States to their former position in the Union. The members of the committee were soon after named by the Lieutenant Governor. To this new committee was referred a series of resolutions offered by Mr. Gibson, declaring that both policy and justice require that the freedmen should be protected in their rights, that it is the duty of Congress to devise the necessary measures for this purpose, that the Freedmen's Bureau bill was one of these, deploring its veto by the President, commending the course of those Senators who voted for its passage over the veto, and advocating the exclusion of the Southern representatives from Congress until the Southern people shall have given satisfactory proofs of loyalty. A resolution offered previous to the recess, in favor of equal rights for all the people of the South, without color distinction, was called up and also sent to this new committee. Petitions were presented for a ship canal from Lake Cayuga to Lake Ontario and for an appropriation to the New York Society for the Protection of Destitute Catholic Children, and a few bills of no general interest were passed, and others of the same character were ordered to their third reading. Bills were noticed, among others, to provide additional care for indigent and disabled soldiers and security for the people against involuntary servitude.

There was but little done in the Assembly. The annual report of the Manhattan Company was presented. The Senate amendment to the bill authorizing our City Comptroller to issue fifty thousand dollars worth of City water stock was considered. A few bills of little importance were noticed, and some were advanced to third reading.

Governor Fenton yesterday signed the Metropolitan Health bill, and it is now a law, which will go into force to-morrow. It is expected that the Governor's nominations for the Health Commissioners will be received and acted on in executive session by the Senate to-day.

EUROPE.

From the details of European news published elsewhere it will be seen that in Paris an impression unfavorable to the prompt and peaceable settlement of the Mexican question is gaining ground. The remarkable speech delivered by Marshal Forey in the French Senate was, it is said, directly inspired by the Emperor Napoleon, who agrees with him that it is impossible for French troops to be withdrawn from Mexico at present. Spanish merchants were beginning to look more hopefully on their prospects, it having been discovered that the supposed Chilean privateers whose appearance in European waters had caused such widespread alarm were Peruvian men-of-war, but imperfectly equipped at present.

In England the Shenandoah claims were being discussed in a considerably altered tone since the publication of Mr. Seward's "caustic and ill-considered" despatch on the question. The London Times now speaks of British officers "winking at transparent frauds" and allowing "British laws to be cheated in a manner that demands inquiry." It alludes to the Australian authorities permitting "a grave breach of hospitality," and recommends that the Foreign Enlistment act should be at once amended.

THE CITY.

Two sessions of the Board of Supervisors were held yesterday. Our Supplement contains a full report of their proceedings. Supervisor Ely charged the special committee on the new Court House with gross mismanagement and corruption in the erection of that building, and moved that a special committee be appointed to investigate the matter. The motion was at first lost, but was subsequently reconsidered and agreed to, and the committee was appointed by the President. Their first meeting will be held this afternoon in the chamber of the Board. The Comptroller reported the estimate of the premium rates for the year 1866. The amount is \$8,550,024.27. A statement of the County Treasurer relative to war expenditures, previously referred to the Volunteering Committee, was approved by the Board, preparatory to being transmitted to Albany.

At a meeting of the Health Commissioners yesterday at the Mayor's Office, Dr. Sayre read a letter from Washington requesting him to send to the National Senate a copy of the quarantine regulations of our port, in order to assist that body in framing a bill for a general quarantine against the invasion of cholera. The City Inspector moved that five thousand copies of Dr. Sayre's annual report be printed. A communication from the Board of Health, regarding the cholera epidemic, was received. In reading of Boston, regarding the cholera epidemic, was received. This communication the writer coincides with Dr. Sayre in his opinion of the communicability and portability of cholera.

An injunction was served upon the Morris Fire and Inland Insurance Company yesterday by Deputy Attorney General S. H. Hammond, founded on the report of the Superintendent of the Insurance Department at Albany that the institution was in bad condition. The company has only been in operation about eighteen months, but in that time has transacted a large amount of business. A receiver will probably be appointed to-day by Judge Barnard, when the creditors of the corporation will commence to receive back their premiums.

In the Supreme Court, Chambers, before Judge G. G. Barnard, an application was yesterday made on behalf of Messrs. Stevens & Co., who hold six policies of the Columbian Marine Insurance Company, to compel the latter to cancel policies by endorsing upon each of the premium notes the amount of unearned premium, calculating the amount of premium from the time each vessel insured was last heard from. After hearing arguments of counsel the Judge reserved his decision. A report of the proceedings in this case, as well as of those in regard to the Morris Insurance Company and other court matters, will be found in our Supplement of this morning.

The Brouling Will case is still on trial before Judge Foster, in Part 8 of the Supreme Court. Several witnesses were examined yesterday, nearly all of whom testified before the Surrogate. The case will probably be closed to-day, and then given to the jury.

The case of Augustus H. Lockwood versus the Independent Line of Telegraph was before the General Term of the Court of Common Pleas yesterday. The question involved in the liability of telegraph companies for mistakes committed by their employees in the transmission of messages. Mr. Lockwood complains that he wrote a despatch to Dedham, Massachusetts, ordering a person in his employ there to stop manufacturing certain goods, but that the message contained the words "stop" and "stop" through carelessness and neglect. The particulars of the case are given in our Supplement sheet. At the trial Term a verdict was given for the plaintiff, and this is now appealed from on exceptions to the Judge's charge. Owing to a dispute as to testimony a rehearing has been ordered in the case.

The case of John Hartman, who has been accused of having had a large quantity of counterfeit money in his possession, was yesterday postponed by United States Commissioner Osborn until Friday, as it is understood the defendant is willing to give information to the government respecting parties who have been engaged in making and selling forged currency.

In the Court of General Sessions yesterday Mark Driscoll, the alleged keeper of a notorious dance house in Water street, and Mary Maloney were convicted of stealing one hundred and sixty dollars from John Brannan, a retired soldier. They were remanded for sentence. There were a number of trivial cases disposed of by the jury, and several prisoners against whom there was very slight evidence were discharged.

Mr. William Lloyd Garrison delivered a discourse last evening in the Brooklyn Academy of Music on the political questions of the day, including the President's reconstruction policy and recent speech. The President's policy was denounced in severe terms, and Mr. Johnson was charged with attempting a coup d'état by the expulsion of Congress and the introduction of members from the Southern States.

At a large meeting of the Tammany Hall Ward Committee of the Twenty-first ward, held at their headquarters, on Third avenue, on Monday evening, resolutions were adopted by President Johnson and his reconstruction policy were unanimously adopted.

The St. Lawrence O'Connell Circle of Fenians held a meeting last night at Cooper Institute, at which addresses were delivered, considerable funds were collected, and several new members were enrolled.

Entertaining reports of additional carnivalistic proceedings of our fun-loving German population will be found in the Supplement sheet of to-day's HERALD. They include a full account of the Saengerbund masquerade ball at Montague Hall, Brooklyn, on Monday night, which was a very successful, interesting and amusing affair.

Fire occurred early yesterday morning at 114 Roosevelt street and 104 West street. In the former building, which was occupied as a drinking house, but little damage was done, and the proprietor, Francis Flood, was arrested on suspicion of having ignited the fire. The entire loss to building and goods by the West street fire was only about one thousand dollars, which is covered by insurance. The housework works on the corner of avenue A and 106th street caught fire on Monday night, and were damaged to the extent of about two thousand dollars.

The stock market was steady yesterday. Governments were dull, but firm. Gold closed steady at 137. The market for beef cattle was decidedly firmer this week, owing to a short supply, and prices were 5c. a lb. per pound higher, ranging from 11c. to 17c., with some sales of fine choice offerings as high as 20c. The bulk of the cattle sold at 14c. a lb. All were sold, and the market closed firm. Milch cows varied from \$45 to \$100 a lb. 25c. Veals were firm, selling at 10c. a lb. 5c. Sheep and lambs were 5c. per pound higher, varying from \$4 to \$12. Hogs were steady at 11c. a lb. 11c. The total receipts were 8,945 hogs, 69 cows, 428 veals, 15,697 sheep and lambs, and 9,131 hogs.

MISCELLANEOUS.

A reception was given by President Johnson at the Executive Mansion last night, which was crowded almost beyond precedent in similar affairs. Citizens of all classes, the majority of them persons of prominence and influence, attended, and manifested by their presence and hearty greetings the increased estimation in which the President is held in consequence of the severe ordeals through which he has recently passed.

A fuller explanation of the objects of Mr. Seward's late West India excursion than has heretofore been made public is furnished in one of our Washington despatches, showing that this trip of the Secretary was not all for pleasure, but comprehended business as well, and business, too, of a somewhat important character. It is understood that he selected a harbor in the island of St. Thomas to form a rendezvous for our national vessels,

and that negotiations with the Danish authorities have resulted in securing to the use of the same, which will be of immense value to our government in case of a foreign war. Our correspondent also presents in the same despatch a picture of the excitement and consternation manifested in the island of St. Thomas at the national capital by the President's veto message and Washington's Birthday address, and the revulsion of public feeling which has followed.

Additional interesting letters from our special correspondents in the East are published in to-day's HERALD. The accounts from Bombay show a rapid increase in the growth of cotton in Western India. The shipment for five months alone during last year over the Great Indian Peninsula Railway amounted to two hundred and nine thousand seven hundred and twenty-four bales—three times the amount for the same period in the preceding year. Our correspondent gives some interesting facts relative to the quality of Indian cotton, and shows its great inferiority to that grown in this country.

Between the French and English there exists great rivalry in steam communication in the East. The French line of steamships seems to have the advantage of comfort and speed. The French fresh water canal at Suez now empties into the Gulf of Suez; but the maritime canal, which is the great commercial work, shows no signs of completion. Now that the war in this country is over, a large number of American travelers have found their way to Egypt. The land of the Pharaohs seems to be quite a resort for lovers of antiquity from this side of the water.

Some interesting facts are contained in our Rio Janeiro correspondence relative to the lower classes, which our countrymen receive in Brazil, and the earnest desire for the settlement there of more of them entertained by the Brazilians. The empire greatly needs the infusion of additional Yankee enterprise and spirit to develop its almost inexhaustible sources of wealth of various kinds.

As there was at one time considerable anxiety—whether, however, the statement given in Monday's HERALD dispelled—concerning the safety of the United States steamer Brooklyn, which sailed from this port for Rio Janeiro in October last, we publish an interesting abstract from the diary of a young naval apprentice, giving a brief account of the passage of this vessel, which, although lengthy, occupying between eighty and ninety days, was without any serious injury to ship or crew. The Brooklyn is supposed to have made the passage all the way hence to Rio Janeiro under sail.

Judge Ballard, of the United States District Court in Kentucky, yesterday granted writs of habeas corpus in the cases of Captain's Reed and Lennin, who were some time ago arrested and committed to jail for protecting the polls by military force at the late election in that State. The trial, which will shortly come on, will involve the whole question of military power versus martial law.

A boiler in the furnace of the Messrs. Melly, in Middletown, Pennsylvania, exploded on Monday evening, completely demolishing the building, killing five and wounding six men, shattering several structures in the vicinity, and shaking the whole town.

The steamer Luna, Leviathan and Peytona were all burned at the levee at St. Louis on Monday night. The loss is estimated at half a million dollars.

On the 23d inst. the body of a discharged soldier named Lewis Bay was found suspended from a tree near Fishing, L. I., and from the evidence adduced at an inquest held it appeared that he had committed suicide while laboring under temporary insanity.

President Johnson and the Republican Party. Governor Cox, of Ohio (republican), in his approved report of a recent familiar conversation with the President on the important subject of Southern restoration, has put forward a powerful argument in behalf of the adhesion of the republican party to the administration.

We have also before us a strong, statesmanlike speech from Senator Sherman, of Ohio, looking in the same direction. The Governor presents the President's vindication of his Southern policy, as a member of that great Union party "which carried the country through the war," and it is a full and satisfactory vindication. The Senator submits the reasons which should still bind the republican party in Congress to the Executive, and they involve considerations of prudence and wisdom which cannot be safely disregarded.

Descending to a mere partisan view of the issue between the President and the radicals, the question first suggested is this: Has Mr. Johnson violated any of the pledges involved in his election as Vice President, or in his present position as the successor of Abraham Lincoln? To this question there can be but one answer. Andrew Johnson has faithfully adhered to the Baltimore platform of 1864, and has faithfully pursued the general policy indicated in the acts, proclamations, messages and speeches of President Lincoln. So far his record is clear. But the alleged defection of Mr. Johnson begins with this work of Southern reconstruction; and yet even here his justification is complete. The collapse of the rebellion occurred in the absence of Congress, and without provisions or conditions of reconstruction from Congress, except the Freedmen's Bureau, the official oath of loyalty, and the general discretionary war powers conferred upon the Executive.

Thus President Johnson was left to determine for himself his line of action. The ample war powers with which he was invested he believed were sufficient for the exigency. He proceeded to act accordingly. He found the late rebellious States under State governments set up in hostility to the government of the United States. He deposed them—he substituted provisional loyal governments and assigned to them the duty of reorganizing said States as members of the Union, but subject to the penalties of their rebellion. He required them in each State to recognize the abolition of slavery in the new organic State law, to ratify by the Legislature the amendment of the federal constitution insuring the abolition against all contingencies throughout the Union; he required them to repudiate their rebel debts, and to recognize the rights of their blacks to the protection of the laws as freedmen, &c. He says that these conditions have so far been complied with by nearly all the States concerned, that he has restored them to their former relations with all the executive departments, only retaining a military force sufficient to protect the freedmen, and to induce the local authorities to relieve him of this duty. Thus, the President contends, the late rebellious States are in fact so far reinstated as loyal members in the Union, that it is too late to question their fundamental rights of representation.

Why then are not these States readmitted into Congress, at least in the persons of their representatives who can take the oath of loyalty? Here the Executive comes into collision with Thaddeus Stevens, who repudiates the President's work. These rebel States, we are admonished, are still disloyal—that they must be reconstructed by Congress from their foundations—that if otherwise restored their strength in Congress, added to that of the Northern copperheads, will result in the repudiation of the Union war debt, or in adding us with the rebel debt—that if not bound by constitutional amendments they will reduce the black race to a worse condition than that of the slavery system abolished—that the blacks should have the right of suffrage or be excluded from the enumeration of the people for representation in Congress—that Southern loyalty is all a sham, and that President Johnson's Southern anti-

pathos to the African race blind him to the demands of justice and national safety.

These are the obstructions which stand between Congress and the President. On each side a distinct issue has been made. No doubt the controlling fear of the republican party in the matter of the admission of the Southern States is the introduction of a party balance of power against them in this Congress or in the next, and in the approaching Presidential election. But Andrew Johnson, as the representative of the whole Union, looks beyond these party calculations. He believes that his policy is just and right. He adheres to it. He is willing to test it before the people of the North. Unquestionably, in the event of such a test, the republican party, as now organized, will be broken up and reduced to a minority in the next Congress. The maintenance of the old Roman military provincial system over the South will bring us nothing but trouble and heavy expenses, while the President's restoration scheme looks to the gain of two hundred millions worth of Southern products in support of our foreign exchanges and the national Treasury. The national debt is in no danger from loyal Southern men, and only such are asked to be admitted by the President. The debts of the rebellion are gone beyond soundings, and can never be touched by any possible political combination. The civil and political rights of the blacks can be secured under the constitution as it now stands. On every side, too, the President is sustained by public opinion, far beyond all the noisy copperhead demonstrations of the day.

The republicans in Congress, therefore, are called upon to choose between the admission of loyal representatives from the Southern States, or the disruption and reconstruction of the Union party of the Northern States; between President Johnson and Thaddeus Stevens; between the road to the succession and the road to ruin. This Congress and the administration must work together, or in the next the tables will be turned. A Congressional caucus of the dominant party, in view of its dangers and its duties, is urgently demanded for the interests, not only of the party, but of the Union, the Treasury and the people, white and black, North and South.

Secretary Seward's Trip to the West Indies Explained.

The mystery which for a long time surrounded the journey of Secretary Seward to the tropics has at length been removed. One of our Washington correspondents, in a letter published elsewhere, furnishes some very interesting facts, which explain the object of his journey more fully than anything which has yet been given to the public. We were at first informed that the veteran Secretary had become wearied writing volumes of essays to foreign diplomats and had taken this journey by way of relaxation, to invigorate both mind and body, and get himself in the proper trim to prepare several more volumes of his essays. This idea was circulated until it became a little threadbare, when another version was put in circulation, and we were informed that he had left his post to get rid of being bored by members of Congress on the Mexican question, or to gain time to carry out his schemes with regard to Napoleon. He finally returned, and the recognition of the republic of Dominica was at once proclaimed, and every body supposed that they had discovered the secret of his mission. The establishing of friendly relations with that republic, and thus making that government our ally, was an important step, and one that will be of incalculable advantage to us in case of a war with any of the European Powers which have colonies in the West India Islands.

While this may have been in part the object of Secretary Seward's journey, it seems by our Washington advices that it was only a portion, and by far the most insignificant portion of his mission. It came in, no doubt, incidentally, but it appears that the real object was to secure a naval station among those islands where our vessels of war can rendezvous, obtain their supplies, and prepare for any emergency in the event of complications with foreign Powers. The temper of the present Congress is such that there is no probability of their making any appropriations to repair or construct fortifications along our Southern coast. Should the enforcement of the time-honored Monroe doctrine—which the people all demand shall be adhered to, and the administration as well as Congress is instructed to maintain—lead us to a war with the monarchical governments which are interfering with affairs on this continent, the whole sea coast of the Southern States would be open to them to operate upon. Those governments having convenient harbors in the West Indies to obtain their supplies, would have a decided advantage over us in a naval conflict. They could make their base of operations near our shores, while we would be forced to the necessity of operating from a Northern port. To provide against this emergency, Secretary Seward pays a visit to the island of St. Thomas, and enters into a negotiation with the Danish authorities for that harbor, which is said to be the finest in the West Indies, and well suited for this purpose. We are informed that his mission was successful and that his objects were accomplished. Taking this to be the correct version, the public cannot fail to commend the skill of the Secretary of State in thus throwing an anchor to the windward, to be ready for any storm that may arise. However much the people may condemn the neglect of Congress to provide for the protection of our Southern harbors, they cannot fail to regard this move of the administration as a wise one under the circumstances.

We would have greatly preferred that the United States should take possession of the Island of Cuba, which by nature belongs to us, but St. Thomas will answer for the present. The Spanish government can now quiet its fears, and rest in peace, as long as it behaves itself; for having secured the harbor at St. Thomas, we have no use for Cuba. But that government must bear in mind that it must keep itself on its good behavior, as far as the affairs of this continent are concerned, or we may find it to our interest to secure additional naval stations in that quarter, and to take them without formal negotiations, as in this case. The harbor of St. Thomas having been secured, we trust that Congress will make a liberal appropriation to place it in a condition to carry out the object for which it was secured. Our only regrets are that it was not in our possession during the late civil war. It would have been of incalculable advantage to us during that period, as a rendezvous for our blockading and cruising squadrons.

More Freedmen's Bureau Legislation. Another bill has been already reported in Congress to enlarge and continue the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau. It is a considerable modification upon the former bill, but still has some disagreeable features. It is especially open to the great objection urged by the President against the Senate bill. It authorizes military supervision over "loyal refugees and freedmen, and all matters relating to them," thus taking a large portion of the Southern population and all their interests and rights entirely out of the government of civil law. This would be as inconsistent with reconstruction as the military power established by the other bill; only it limits the power given to five years, when the other was without limit. The limit of time is the only practical difference between the bills; for this also would make the bureau a grand political machine, by which, if the suffrage be given to the negro, an immense vote would be corruptly controlled for any bad purpose by the fanatical leaders.

Congress had better leave this sort of legislation alone. It must perceive by this time that it cannot force its extreme notions upon the President; while, if it sincerely desires the good of the freedman, it may safely leave him where he is. He has no better friend, none more honestly and earnestly determined that he shall have all his rights, than Andrew Johnson. The Freedmen's Bureau, as it is, is sufficient for its proper purposes, and when it cannot secure those purposes, or when its term expires, none will be more ready to renew it if necessary than the President. Can the country doubt this, in view of the fact that the President's whole life has been a struggle against the very power that would encroach upon the freedmen's rights? All the Freedmen's Bureau bills that Congress can frame would not better the condition of the negro, and the present Congress can scarcely frame one that would not be an obstacle of the most insuperable character to restoration. Unless Congress is ready to give up all to radical lead once more, it had better not touch this subject at all.

PUBLIC GIFTS TO GENERAL GRANT.—General Grant has been the recipient of many public gifts since he has brought the war of rebellion to a triumphant conclusion, not one of which, nor the whole of them in the aggregate, is more than he is justly entitled to. In other countries a hero who has done great public service usually receives his honors and rewards from the government. Titles are conferred upon him by royalty; and estates are purchased by grants from Parliament; but it is different with us. Congress confers a higher rank; but it is the people who present the gifts. Here the people are the government, and in cases like that of General Grant they take the functions of the government directly into their hands. It is therefore to the people that our heroes look for their most substantial rewards, and it is meet that it should be so in a republic.

THREATS OF ASSASSINATION OR IMPRISONMENT.—Radical speakers and papers are talking about "beheading" the President, and "removing the Presidential obstacle," and "putting the President out of the way," and impeaching him, and all such nonsense. The copperhead papers profess to be greatly alarmed about this, and talk about defending and guarding the President. This sort of trash is very ridiculous. The President is in no possible danger from any quarter, and consequently requires no protection from the copperhead camp. These radicals bluster a great deal, but it is in a Pickwickian sense, like the boasts about their heroism and patriotism during the recent war.

THE REBEL DIER.—Congressman Rogers, of New Jersey, is in favor of paying the rebel debt before it is due. All loyal people are in favor of paying it when it is due—viz., "six months after the recognition of the independence of the Confederate States." Everybody will agree to this.

CITY INTELLIGENCE.

THE MURDER OF A BALLOON.—A MAN DANGEROUSLY INJURED.—John Foley, a man thirty-five years of age, living at 17 Jay street, attended a ball given at Coogan's Hall, southwest corner of First avenue and Eleventh street, on Monday night. Before leaving there he became involved in a quarrel with a number of men, one of whom buried a heavy tumbler at him. The weapon struck on his head, knocking him down and inflicting a dangerous wound. The assailants then fled and made their escape. Officers Lohr and Berns, of the Seventeenth precinct, conveyed Foley to Bellevue Hospital.

FATAL ACCIDENT ON STEAMSHIP.—CORNER COLLISION.—Yesterday held an inquest at the New York Hospital on the body of Charles Stewart, late a seaman on board the steamship Merrimack, whose death was the result of an injury received on the 8th instant by falling down the ship's hold while cleaning the deck. The jury rendered a verdict of accidental death. Deceased was twenty-eight years of age and a native of Pennsylvania.

THE CHARITY BALL.—Mr. Henry Claws, the Treasurer of the Charity Ball fund, for the benefit of the Nursery and Child's Hospital, makes the following report of the receipts and expenses of the ball, given recently, \$15,123. Expenses, \$3,192. Net proceeds, \$11,931.

AMUSEMENTS.

THE MATINEE AT WOOD'S THEATRE.—The Wednesday matinee at Wood's theatre, Broadway, has become an absolute necessity for the accommodation of the crowds of ladies, children and suburban visitors who resort to this fashionable place of amusement, more particularly since the engagement of Miss Lucille Western and Mr. Barton Hill. This afternoon the exciting melodrama, Atoneement, or The Child Stealer, will be played at a grand matinee, arranged by Manager Wood, the performances commencing at half past one and terminating at four o'clock. Miss Western will sustain her famous impersonation of Hodge the Cadger, No. 1 London Bridge, and Margaret Boskey, supported by Mr. Hill and the entire strength of the company.

A NEW OPERA HOUSE PROPOSED.—It is among the rumors of the day that a company, numbering twenty gentlemen, have purchased the property now occupied as a piano-manufactory on Thirteenth street and running back to Fourteenth street, for the purpose of erecting thereon a new opera house, the entrance to be directly fronting the Academy of Music. The cost of the property is stated to be \$250,000, and it is said that the purchase was completed yesterday.

The Recent Fire at St. Louis, &c.

The loss by the steamboat fire last night including the cargoes of the Dictator and Luna, and freight burned on the levee, is estimated at about \$750,000. Insurance on the Dictator \$112,000. The other vessels were not insured. The insurance on the freight, if any, is not ascertained. The Malleable Iron Works—Fox & Co.—burned yesterday afternoon. Loss about \$15,000; insured. The Flouring mill of Obermeyer & Co. and the Madison school house were burned at two o'clock this morning. Loss about \$40,000, of which \$27,000 was insured. Nearly \$500,000 have been subscribed here within a few days to the stock of the new Merchants' Union Express Company. John How has been appointed local director for this State.

Advices from Montana report the Indians committing great depredations. Governor Meagher had called for five hundred mounted volunteers to march against them.

The Case of F. O. J. Smith.

The Superior Court, Judge Putnam on the bench, has been occupied yesterday and to-day with the case of F. O. J. Smith, recently convicted of the commission of perjury, on his application for a new trial. The defendant's counsel occupied all of yesterday and a portion of to-day in presenting the case. District Attorney Sanger, for the Commonwealth, replied this afternoon. The case will be resumed to-morrow morning, when it is expected that a person will address the court. The case excited great interest.

STATE CAPITAL.

The Health Bill Signed by the Governor.

Probable Complexion of the Commission.

THE NEW YORK COLLECTORSHIP.

Interesting Proceedings of the Legislature.

Our Albany Correspondence.

ALBANY, Feb. 27, 1866.

The Metropolitan Health bill was signed by the Governor to-day.

The Governor is expected to send to Executive Session the names of Jackson S. Shultz for the lay member of the Health Commission. The position was tendered to him by the Governor, and he is understood to have consented to serve. This appointment will give stability and character to the new department at once. Dr. Willard Parker will also be sent in without doubt, and both will be confirmed forthwith. The second physician for New York will be either Dr. Chalmers or Dr. J. O. Stone, this point not being finally decided yet. Neither Squibb nor Mason will be appointed for Brooklyn, but of the long list of candidates it would be futile to assume to-night who will be named. Political feeling here runs very deep. There is no marked demonstration, but intense interest is manifested.

THE NEW YORK COLLECTORSHIP.

A social entertainment was given by Thurlow Wood to-night, at which the leading members of both houses largely attended, without regard to the prevailing class of factions in the Union party. The key to the occasion was the presence of General G. W. Leavenworth, of Syracuse, who will now be advanced as a compromise or conciliatory candidate for Collector by both the factions of the party.

RADICAL OUTRAGING.

Lyman Tremain had a gathering of the faithful of the radical around him to-night. It is understood that he purposes to push the radical issue to the extreme, and this conference was held to shape a course in the Assembly for a campaign against Johnson and an ultra support of Congress.

DEMOCRATIC CAPTURE.

A caucus of the democrats, under the auspices of Ben Wood, was held to-night. The proceedings are reported about the hotels by the radicals and made the instrument of consolidating them in their organization.

THE RADICALS IN THE SENATE.

The radical resolutions in the Senate to-day are laid aside permanently. Folger, the Chairman of the Select Committee, will report their place. He is claimed by both sides of his party just now, and will probably take similar ground to that of Senator Sherman in Congress. The leadership of both the factions are disposed to temporize on the national issue, but the radicals have the undoubted preponderance.

NEW YORK